NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1878.

ENGLAND AGITATED.

RUSSIA STILL ACTING MYSTERIOUSLY.

THE OTTOMAN PLENIPOTENTIARIES. SUSPICIOUSLY

SILENT-A TURKISH STEAMER SUNK BEFORE

Vor. XXXVII... No. 11,496.

WASHINGTON.

A REPUBLICAN VICTORY IN THE HOUSE. A MAJORITY SECURED AGAINST REDUCING THE WHISKEY TAX-THE LATEST MOVE OF THE SIL-

VER MEN-GENERAL CONGRESSIONAL NEWS. The Republicans in the House have defeated the resolution in regard to whiskey in bond, and have carried a substitute not to reduce the whiskey tax. This is said to indicate a loss of Democratic control and the probable defeat of the new tariff bilt. The talk about a silver compromise is intended to blind Eastern men and prevent any demonstration by them against silver. The Senate discussed, yesterday, the fact that the Pension business is ten months in arrears. Secretary Thompson favors a branch observatory away from the seaboard. Several hundred lobbyists are kept out of the House by the new rule. The report on patents has been sent to Congress. The telegraphic correspondence between Messrs. Chandler and Burke is

THE WHISKEY TAX.

ONTROL OF THE HOUSE LOST BY THE DEMOCRATS YESTERDAY-DEFEAT OF THE TARIFF BILL FORE-

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Washington, Jan. 30.-The Democrats were defeated in the House to-day and the evidence is becoming cumulative that they do not possess a working majority in the lower branch of Congress. In every instance since the 15th of October in which a question has arisen that was not strictly partisar in its character and in which the Republicans have acted as a unit, the Democrats have been beaten. This was true when they undertook to reduce the Army and also when Fernando Wood attempted to set the investigating committees of the House to work during the long holiday recess.

The bill reported last week by the Committee on Ways and Means was one of the most objectionable of the class to which it belongs. Manufacturers of spirits had come to Washington and protested earnestly against being required to pay the tax of 90 cents a gallon upon whiskey, and to withdraw the spirits already in bonded warehouses. As long as it was possible that the tax would be reduced they said, with some justice, that the agitation of the question of reducing the tax had destroyed their business; that the prices of spirits was depressed in consequence of this discussion; and if they were obliged to withdraw their stocks from bonded warehouses and pay the tax upon them now they would suffer considerable losses. They therefore asked that they be allowed to leave their stocks in bond until the 1st of July next, supposing that, in the meantime, it would be decided whether a change in the rate of tax should be made or not.

The Republicans led by Mr. Charles Foster, of Ohio, and Mr. Burchard, of Illinois, replied that while there was force in the complaints of the whiskey distillers, it was no reason why the Government should be deprived of its revenue which it so much needs, either by postponing the collection of the tax, or by reducing the rate of tax and allowing whiskey already manufactured to be assessed at a lower rate. In order to settle the matter once for all Mr. Foster moved as a substitute for the committee's bill that the House declare its opinion

committee's bill that the House declare its opinion that it is inexpedient to change the rate of tax en distilled spirits during the present session.

On this question the division was almost on party lines. The Republicans probably without exception supported Mr. Foster's substitute and the Democrats, with a few exceptions, opposed it. The contest continued during the whole day but as there were twenty or thirty Democrats absent, Mr. Foster finally succeeded in getting possession of the bill, and secured the approval of the House to his substitute. And so it is definitely settled that there will not be, during the presen Session, any change in the rate of tax on distilled spirits.

distilled spirits.

The vote of the House on the question this afternoon is interpreted by many to indicate that Mr. Wood will have great difficulty in securing a majority in the House for the Tariff Bill, which he has

NO COMPROMISE ON SILVER.

NOTHING TO BE GAINED BY IT-THE TALK ON THE SUBJECT DESIGNED TO PREVENT ACTION IN THE

Washington, Jan. 30,-Considerable talk has been heard about the Capitol during the last day or two about a compromise on the Silver Bill.

A compromise on that question at the present stage of the discussion may be said to be almost impossible. The advocates of the remonetization of silver would as a general thing be unwilling to accept any dollar containing more than 41212 grains. One of the strongest arguments in favor of this dollar is that it was made the standard of values in the first laws on the subject of coinage, passed after the adoption of the Constitution, and whatever changes were made in the weight of our gold coinage, the silver dollar remained the same, according to the laws of the United States, from the days of Hamilton down to 1873. It

is the clamor of the advocates of the remonetization of silver for the restoration of the "dollar of the fathers" that has gained for them much of the popular sympathy which makes the silver movement now so formidable. Much of this popular sympathy would be thrown away, either by adopting a dollar containing 420 grains, which is the newest coin known to American law, or by fixing the weight of the dollar at 435 or 436 grains, which would give us a coin never heard of before.

Besides this the silver men now believe that they have control of two-thirds of each House of Congress, and that they can secure the passage of the Bland bill in spite of the President's veto. Believing this, it is impossible to convince them that they can gain anything by compromise.

The opponents of the Silver Bill, on the other hand, can gain nothing by even a partial surrender. It is now generally conceded that free coinage will be stricken out of any measure that passes both Houses, the advocates of the Bland bill even not daring to go before the people with a proposition to allow the owners of silver bullion to realize 10 per cent upon its coinage. It is not necessary, therefore, to make a compromise to secure this amendment, and the majority in neither House would consent to strike out either of the other most objectionable features of the bill for the purpose of obtaining

votes, which they do not now think they need. All the talk about a compromise is probably set on foot by the advocates of the Silver Bill, who are anxious to have an impression go out which will in a measure reassure the people of the East, and prevent them from taking any active measures either to defeat the Silver Bill, or to counteract its effects.

SUFFRAGE IN THE DISTRICT. THE BOUSE COMMITTEE ON DISTRICT AFFAIRS FA-VORS A MEASURE WHICH WILL REVIVE THE

Washington, Jan. 30.—The House Committee on the District of Columbia seems to be making a mess of it in its attempts to amend the Hendee bill, providing for the future government of Washington. Another vote was taken on the Classin amendment this morning, which provides that a council, consisting of twentyfour members, shall be elected by popular vote, and shall exercise certain legislative functions. This amendment was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Messrs. Williams, Blackburn, Clymer, Bouck, Claffin and Davis—6.
Negative—Messrs. Hunton, Henkle, Mayham, Hendee and Brentano—5.

The last experience of the District with universal suffrage was anything but encouraging. The Legislature then consisted of a Senate and a House of Delegates; the former appointed by the President, the latter elected by the people. Governor Shepherd and those acting with him had no diffi-

culty in inducing General Grant to select for the upper House only such persons as the Ring could manage, and no one could be elected to the lower House without the consent of the leading members of the Ring. It therefore came to pass that when-ever the chief officers of the District of Columbia desired to do anything about the legality of which there was any question, or against which there was strong popular opposition, Mr. Shepherd simply went down to the Legislative Assembly with his bill in his hand, and he generally got it passed before he left. Members of this Assembly testified before the Joint Committee of Congress in 1873 and 1874, that they voted for bills authorizing the expendi-

tures of large sums of money simply because Gover-

nor Shepherd desired it. The Ring has always been popular with the ignorant negroes of the District, in its disgrace as well as during the time when its power was almost unlimited. Leading colored men have frequently, in public speeches, regretted the overthrow of the Shepherd machine, and as intelligent a man as Frederick Donglass has, on more than one occasion since the rascalities of the old ring were exposed, spoken of its members, and of the work they did in the District, in the highest terms of praise. Even after Congress had abolished the District Government, and had enacted laws the object of which was to prevent the old Ring from exercising further influence in District affairs, their power was not entirely broken, as every resident of the District

The creation of a council to be elected by popular vote will certainly make an opportunity for this same class of men, or others equally unscrupulous, to get control of some of the affairs of the District, and the result of their management can easily be

It is safe to say that nine-tenths of the propertyholders in Washington and Georgetown, irrespective of party, are opposed to the reëstablishment of universal suffrage in the District of Columbia for any purpose. They are willing to submit to a direct government by Congress (which is about the worst government that can be imagined); to have placed over them Commissioners from distant States who are not familiar with the needs of the District; or, indeed, to accept any plan of government which may be devised by Congress, as preferable to one founded in any degree on universal suffrage.

Another amendment agreed to by the House Committee this morning, provides that the Senate and House of Representatives shall elect a Commissioner of the District, who shall serve three years, and that a third Commissioner shall be detailed by the President of the United States from the Engineer Corps of the Army; no one to be selected for the place whose rank is below that of major. This proposition is almost as objectionable as that universal suffrage. In the first place the election of Commissioners by ofther House hundreds of others working and schedule, obtain votes. The selection would probably be made at last in a party cancels, and the successful candidate would be not the man best fitted to fill the place, but man best fitted to fill the promote the be made at last in a party caucus, and the successful candidate would be, not the man best fitted to fill the place, but the one whose election would best promote the interests of the party which controlled either House. But the evils of this system would only begin with the election of the Commissioners. Every member of Congress who voted for the successful candidate would have a sort of claim upon him for spatronare, and the Commissioners would finally be very much in the condition of the present doorkeeper of the House of Representatives who, being unable to withstand the enormous pressure brought upon him by members for places for their friends, has found himself on more than one occasion with more employes on his rolls than the law allows.

The present ad interms system of government by Commissioners appointed by the President, and responsible to him, is preferable to any system embodying these two features of universal suffrage and the election of Commissioners by one or both Houses.

CHANDLER'S QUESTIONS TO BURKE. SHARP REPLY BY TELEGRAPH-CHANDLER'S

Before considering the subject matter of a telegram received this day, purporting to be signed by W. E Chandler, I desire to ask if the author is the Chandle who, as Assistant-Secretary of the Treasury, travelling through the South in 1865, corruptly par ticipated in the spoil gathered by Supervising Treasury Agents engaged in robbing their Government and in de frauding the distressed people of this and adjacent States! Is it the Chandler who, as Secretary of the Re publican National Committee, with certain Republicans om Louisiana, at a conference or conferences at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, concerning Louislana affairs, abou October, 1872, secretly and corruptly conspired to take advantage of the absence from Louisiana of the Governor thereof, to assemble secretly the Legislature, impeach the Governor, seize the Government, and use its nachinery to carry the election of 18721

Is it the Chandler who carned and received a fee from Kellogg of \$3,000 in 1873, and the encomium you had depe more for him than any one except Attorney-General Williams, in maintaining his foul and infamous usurpation of the office of Governor of this State ? Is it the Chandler who encouraged, abetted, and conspired with famous alites in this city to rob 12,000 citizens of New-Orleans of their franchise, and drag them before the Federal Courts on or about the telegraph guaranteed Kellogg that the whole power of the Government would sustain the Returning Board in counting the vote of Louisiana for the Republican candidates, and then hastened to Florida to manipulate the frauds of that State's count? Is it the Chandler who has of late been vainly seeking to stir up the " helbroth" of sectional bate, and foul his political nest, to the disgust of decent citizens, North and South !

If yea, permit me to say that the inquisitorial powers of political tramps terminated in March last. Such persons are subjects of inquisition. If nay, the impertment telegram shall have such consideration as it deserves. E. A. BURKE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 30, 1878. Major E. A. BURKE, New-Orleans, La. Your insolent language and false charges against me leave no doubt about your identity, and I, therefore, repeat my inquiry about the Wormly's Hotel conferences. Were you present, was a memorandum made, and will you make it public? W. E. CHANDLER.

SHABBY TREATMENT OF VETERANS. CLAIMS AND PENSION APPLICATIONS KEPT WAITING

SIXTEEN MONTHS.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE PRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 .- The Senate spent a half hour to-day in discussing the condition of business in the Pension Office. Attention has recently been called to the fact that an application for a pension is certain to be delayed at least sixteen months in the office of the Surgeon-General, on account of the reduction of the clerical force in that office and the accumulation of work there. The Surgeon-General's Office has always been behind with its business, and that fact was demonstrated to the Committee on Appropriations of the House during the last Congress. Notwithstanding that fact the cleri-

cal force was reduced. If there is any class of claims against the Government that deserves prompt attention it is that comprising those of wounded and disabled soldiers. Hundreds of cases have occurred in which destitute soldiers who have applied for pensions to which they were entitled by law, have died before their applica-

tions could be acted upon. The fact to which Senator Davis, of West Virgina, called attention to-day, that a clerk from the Pension Office was detailed for several months during the Summer of 1876, for duty at political

complained of. As Senator Edmunds said to-day, if it was true that such a detail was made, the House of Representatives ought to have impeached the secretary or bureau officer making it. But the great delays complained of are not in the Pension Bureau itself, but in the Surgeon-General's Office, where the surgical records are examined in order to determine the physical condition of the soldier at the time of his discharge. It is not asserted that clerks in that office have been detailed for political work, or that the business of that office is not efficiently performed.

RESTORING THE OLD RATES.

AGREEMENT OF THE TRUNK LINES.

SETILING THE CONTEST WITH THE GRAND TRUNK DOISE THE DISPOSITION AGAIN—A PLAN FOR SETILING THE DISPOSITION AG

THE EXCLUSION OF LOBBYISTS.

THE HOUSE GREATLY CHANGED IN APPEARANCE-QUITE AS NOISY AS EVER, THOUGH.

INY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 -The strict enforcement of the rule of the House prohibiting geneeral admission to the floor during the session, made a great change in the fout ensemble of that body to-day, but did not reduce, in any appreciable degree, the amount of noise and confusion upon the floor. The crowds who have gathered from day to day in the vacant spaces behind the bar of the House were no longer there, but the general conversation of members interfered as much as ever with the rapid transaction of business and the speaker was more than once required to suspend proceedings until order could be restored. The strict enforcement of this rule, while it works great inconvenience to a class of people who have legitimate business on the floor, like the clerks of committeness of the control of the restored. mate onsuess on the floor, like the cierks of commit-tees, private secretaries of members and represen-tatives of the press, also has the advantage of ex-cluding from the floor and the cloak rooms, several hundred lobbyists, who will now transact their business with members under great difficulties.

THE COINAGE COMMISSION. APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT - PROFESSOR PLIOT THE CHAIRMAN.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.] WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 .- The President has apcointed the following gentleman commissioners to test the gold and silver coinage of the United States for the year 1877: Professor Chas, W. Ehot, Massuchusetts; Professor Thos. Egleston, jr., New-York; Professor Robert E. Rogers, Pennsylvania; A. Lown Snowden, Pennsylvania; J. B. L. Curry, Virginia den Snowden, Pennsylvania; J. B. L. Curry, Virginia the Rev. S. A. Bronson, Obio; Chus, M. Walker, In-diana; Newton Bateman, Illinois; Charles Beardsley Iowa, and John W. Twiggs, California. The ex-efficio Commissioners are the Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsyl-vania, the Coutreller of the Corrency, and the As-sayer of the Assay Office at New York. The Com-mission will assemble at the Mint in Philadelphia on the 13th of February next.

THE TREATY WITH SAMOA. THE SENATE PATIFIES IT WITHOUT A DIVISION.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Washington, Jan. 30.-The Senate in executive that body several days ago by the President. It is singed by Schor L'Mamea, the ambassador on the part of the Samoan people, and by Mr. Evarts for the United States. It is the usual treaty of friend-ship, amity and peace, a full synopsis of which was published in The Thibura about a week ago. The possession of the harbor of Pago-Pago by the United States, granted in the treaty, will, it is supposed, extend a sort of protectorale over the whole island. The consideration of the treaty occupied very little time in the Senate, and was confirmed without a division. Mr. Edmunds raised the point that the treaty was bardly a law ful one, and questioned the Committee of L'Mamea to speak for the Samoan people. The clairman of the committee answered that the Ambassador had one in gularly recognized by the President. Mr. Hamlin also said that the Samoan people had a written constitution and a Government framed on the principles of our own and that he regarded the treaty as vital and binding. that body several days ago by the President. It is swait his reply:

EXHIBITION NOTES. APPOINTMENTS-PROTECTION TO GOODS ON SHIP-

IGENERAL PRESS DISPATCH. Washington, Jan. 30.—The President, to-day, appointed the following Honorary Commissioners to the Paris Industrial Exhibition; Alexander McLeod,

of Delaware; Joseph G. Thorpe and Robert H. Baker, of Wisconsin, and John W. Mackey and W.

AN OBSERVATORY INLAND. A BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT IN THE INTERIOR SOME-

WHERE FAVORED. [GENERAL PRESS DISPATOR.] Washington, Jan. 30.—The Secretary of the Navy, in response to a letter from Senator Paddock. on the subject of establishing a branch mayal observatory in the laterior of the country, says he thinks it very desirable that an observatory should be located, as may be found vatory should be located, as may be found to possess the necessary advantages of location, and concurs in the recommendations of Rear-Admiral Rodgers as to the practical mode of ascertaining such a point. The Rear-Admiral surgests, in order to select the most suitable place, that several observers, furnished with five-meh objectives, all carefully compared and chosen, of equal performance, be sent to designated places to observe test objects on as many nights as practicable. The station, which after diligent comparison of the reports of the observers, shall be found the best, should be the one chosen. A large telescope there placed would, in the field of discovery, doubtless do work, which no present observatory can equal. Mr. Rodgers is of opinion that \$200,000 will cover the expense of such experiment.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL. THE AIR LINE TO COUNCIL BLUFFS. Washington, Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1878.

The House Committee on Railroads and Canals to lay heard Colonel W. H. Wood, of New-York, in advocacy of the several bills now pending before the n anyone, of the several bins now sending before the committee, providing for the construction of a double-line kine of railway from New-York to Conneil Bluffs; he object of such road being to provide cheap trans-sortation from the Westko the seamond. After some omsuferation, it was agreed to refer the matter to a sub-ommittee, consisting of Mesers. Schleicher, McKenzie and Mitchell.

NEW YORK DRAFTS FOR FOUR-PER-CENTS. Arrangements have been made by which the Secretary of the Treasury will receive in payment of subscriptions to the 4 per cent loan, colu or currency checks drawn on banks or bankers in New-York. Th

currency checks will be counted into coin at current rates, without expense to the owner, and in every case any excess over the amount due on subscription will be returned to the subscribers. Similar arrangements for collecting drafts will be easily be made, if found neces-sary, in other cities baving Sub-Treasury offices. MEXICO PAYS ANOTHER \$300,000. Señor Ramacona, the Special Agent of Mexico, to-day paid the second instalment of \$300,000, on account of the awards made by the Joint American and Mexican Commission, in favor of American citizens.

COLLECTOR FREELAND RETAINED. The President has concluded not to remove Mr. Freeland, Collector of Internal Revenue in Brooklyn, uniess the accusations made against him are definitely

CONFIRMATIONS.

Washington, Jan. 30 .- The Senate in exeentive a ssion to-day confirmed the following nomina-

Thomas C. Shapleigh, Register of the Land Office, Delroit City, Minn. Thomas Bayles, Receiver of Public Money, Dardanelle, Ark. Ark.

Ark.

Postmasters — Amasa S. Tracy. Middleburg. VI.; Samnel C. Miller, -White Plains, N. Y.; Alex. F. Lobdell, Brewster Station, N. Y.; Joseph Hudson, Peckskill, N. Y.; L. M., Morton, Milton, Penn.; D. A. Beckley, Hounsburg, Penn.; Dennis L. Meriarty, Emlenton, Penn.; Chas. F. Martia, Sycamore, Ill.; Samuel J. Eurpee, Marishall, Mich.; Wm. Gloson, Austin, Nev.; Daniel O. Atkinson, Virginia City, Nev.

AN OLD SUGAR HOUSE DAMAGED. A fire occurred yesterday afternoon in the arge five-story building, Nos. 546 and 548 West Fiftyseventh-st., formerly occupied as a sugar house and dis tillery, the machinery of which was still in position. The fire broke out in some unexplained manner in the lastfire broke out in some unexplained manner in the base-ment, and extended through the building to the top floor, occupied by the jainter, John Liebman. The damage to machinery was \$8,000; to building, \$2,000. The loss is

the old rates from Boston to the West will be restored. A plan has also been adopted for stopping the cutting of rates in the West. The Chamber of Commerce yesterday appointed a committee to report measures for securing fair freight rates.

THE PLANS TO STOP CUTTING. REACHING AN UNDERSTANDING WITH MR. HICKSON -COMMISSIONER FINK TO ACT AS ARBITRATOR-FORCING THE WESTERN LINES TO OBSERVE THE

SCHEDULE.

The conference of the presidents of the trunk lines was resumed at the Brevoort House restorday morning. The representatives of the different roads were all present except Mr. Jew-ett. Mr. Bilss, of the Boston and Albany, who arrived on the previous night, also attended the meeting. He expressed a willingness to submit the questions in dispute between his road and the Vermont Central, and its Western connection, the Grand Trunk, to Mr. Fink, as arbitrator, the percentage to be allotted to each company to be determined by a comparison of their business for any time that might be selected prior to July 1, 1878. If, in Mr. Fink's opinion, there should be a further allowance to the Grand Trunk above the amount that would be due under the percentage thus obtained, the additional percentage should be granted. If the total amount of tonnage actually pass over its road, the difference should be made up in some other way. The loss an excess of freight to the Grand Trunk, over the amount that would be due under the actual percentage as ob-tained by Mr. Fink, should be divided, it was maintained by Mr. Vanderoiit, between the different trunk lines, in propertion to the percentage of the Boston traffic over heir respective lines. Mr. Vanderbilt succeeded in car-

It was finally preposed to telegraph to Mr. Hickson that the trunk lines presidents were willing to accept his proposition for a settlement of the question of the West-bound traffic from New-Engiand by leaving the mat-ter to Mr. Fink, in accordance with his suggestions. Objection was immediately made to the phraselogy of the proposed dispatch on the ground that all of Mr. Hickson's propositions had contained too many conditions that could not be entertained by the Trunk lines. Finally the following dispatch was sent to Mr. Hickson, and the con to-day ratified the Samoan Treaty sent to | conference adjourned to 8 o'clock in the evening, to

between the Western railroads on Last realize the conference. In addition to the presidents of the trank these mediating Mr. Jewett, mere were present J. N. Mcturileogh, coarroan of the Executive Committee of the Western Association, and N. R. Guiford, Western Prof. Commissioner, Mr. Guifferd gave a suscenar in detail of the singular gave a suscenar in the West. The meeting continued in session until missinght. Mr. Fink then stated that the conference have agreed to a meetined plan of enforcing tariff raise by the Western roads. The four trank lines were to appoint an Executive Committee consisting of one from each road that sund asset Mr. Fink to enforcing raise. If a road was found guilty of taking freight at less that the regular tarif, decisive measures were to be adopted at each to bring the offending found to terms. In all this work the trank lines would act as a unit through Mr. Fink Mr. Fink thought that the work of the conference had been trank lines would be need. Finak lines would not as a unit through Mr. Fink. Mr. Fink thought that the wo h of the conference had been accomplished, and that he more importance would be held at present. Mr. Guilford would be retained in the West. Not withstanding the fact that the presenties of the trank times were in assession for the purpose of settling the questions in dispute—heavy shipments of goods were made from this city to the West yesterday, by the way of Boston. From Boston to Cheago, the rates on fourth class tell as low as sixteen cents per 100 pounds. Lard and boxed means were sent from Cheannah yesterday at rates as low instrain has been herbelore reported. There was also a outfler reduction from Cheago and Sc Louis on East-bound shipments.

PROTEST BY NEW-YORK MERCHANTS. RAHLROAD DISCRIMINATIONS DISCUSSED BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-A COMMITTEE AP-

POINTED TO REPORT ON THE MEASURES NECES SARY TO GET FAIR RATES.

The Chamber of Commerce held a special meeting yesterday to consider the question of freight discriminations against New-York. Of the 206 merchants and bankers who signed the published call for the meeting, only about a dozen were present, but the a lively interest in the subject. Charles S. Smith, of the firm of George C. Richardson & Co., offered the followin

resolution:
Waercas, In the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, it is true that the commitons of bermanent prosperity, anke for the Commerce of New York and the leaning rainroad lines of this State, are mier-dependent and inseparable, and that harmony smould always prevail between these great interests;

Resolved, That a special committee of representatives Resolved, That a special committee of representatives from the leading financial and continertal interests of this city, to be known as the Committee on Kaironal Transportation of the Committee of Kommerce, be appointed by the chair, whose duty it shad be to inquire most and report to this Chamber, from time to time, about the relations existing between the commerce of this city and the leading radiood times commercing New-York with the Word, and what measures are necessary to instruct for the continerce of this city permanent and reasonably continuing rates of freight. quitable rates of freight

Mr. Smith spoke briefly in support of the resolution. He said that the merchants of New-York do not desire that the railroads should make non-dividend paying rate for freight, but they intend to insist, with all the force they can command, that discriminations in the matter of railroad freights, to the prejudice of the commerce of the city, shall forever cease. If necessary to that end the will ciaito that the State Legislature has not granted highly valuable powers and privileges to these corporations, nor have tax-payers given a large sum of money to one of them to assist in the construction of its roadway to the Grand Central Depot, with the purpose that the nmense powers shall be used as an engine of oppression to New-York commerce. F. B. Thurber said that while the merchants and the

railroads were alike interested in the ultimate prosperity of the city, and in the commerce upon which that po perity depends, they might differ as to the ratio in w . c the profits of that commerce should be divided. It was unfair that the railroads should take the lion's share, and also unfair that they should not be properly remunerated The railroads should make equitable rates of freight for New-York at least as low as those to and from other great seaboard cities, and should give no special rates to large shippers "For years," Mr. Thurber continued, "the trunk lines have been in the habit of contracting with large houses in the interior to carry their freight from 25 to 50 per cent cheaper than they carried for the general public , leichardson pursued its assailant for half a square, and then fell dead. The murderer has not yet been arrested. For years," Mr. Thurber continued, "the trunk lines

the effect of this has been to build up these houses at the expense of the scaboard jobbers, to prevent small buyers from frequently coming to this market as they used to do, the roads thus injuring their passenger business, our hotels losing the patronage they would otherwise have had, and forcing our jobbing houses to go to much

greater expense in sending out travelling salesmen, and ultimately to become importers in order to make in one way what was taken from them in another. Every Eastern interest has been injured by this subsuly practice to Western jobbers; even the railroads find that by this practice they are simply exchanging a large number of small customers, noving remunerative rates, for a her of small customers, paying remunerative rates, for a small number of large ones upon whose business the

this practice they are simply exchanging a large plant ber of small customers, paying remunerative rates, for a small number of large ones upon whose business they make nothing."

General Charles C. Dodge read some statistics to show that the combination between the ocean steamship lines and the trunk lines, in regard to rates for freight from Europe to the West, had been most disastrous to the interests of New-York. In many instances confined had been closed upon a basis of not over one-half of the rates by way of New-York. There had not been shown among the New-York merchants an inclination to assist the railroad companies in securing terminal facilities for receiving and shipping freight, while in Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Pertland the questions of terminal facilities, of steam tracks along the water fronts and on the plers, the connecting of different railroad lines, the erection of steam elsvators and the remittance of certain city taxes, had all been promptly taken up and satisfactority acted uron by merchants and citizens of those places. The merchants, General Dodge continued, had no right to ask the ruilroad companies to make sacrifices which they themselves very unwilling to bear.

Channeey M. Dopew, who was present in the interests of the New-York Central Railroad were identical with the mercannie interest of the New-York Central Railroad were identical with the mercannie interests of New-York. Mr. Vanderbilk had given his word, has year, to allow no discrimination in rates against New-York. Mr. Vanderbilk had given his word, has year, to allow no discrimination in rates against New-York. Mr. Vanderbilk had given his word, has year, to allow no discrimination in rates against New-York. Mr. Vanderbilk had given his word, has young made to bring about understandings by which the interests of New-York of late the practice of currence of the relived of the changes in this city. It was not for the linterest of New-York, Mr. Depew said, nor for the interest of New-York of late the practice of cu

President of the Chamber, was read:

President of the Chamber, was read:

"DEAR SHI: We received orders, yesterday, from a large house in St. Louis, to ship their goods to Boston by Fa!! River Line, care of "Merchants' Dispatch." Every one knows that "Merchants' Dispatch" means New-York Central Radioad. A manufacturing firm in North Adams, Massannounce to their customers that they have arranged to ship goods to St. Louis at 60 cents per 100 pounds. New-York rite \$1.25 per 100 pounds. We suppose this must be by the New-York Central Radioad from Troy. We send you these facts thinking they may be of interest in connection with your mostling to-day.

"VAN VALKENBUGH & LEAVITY, No. 62 Worth st." Charse 8, Smith and tout the present rates from Bos-

Charles S. Smith said toat the present rates from Bos-ton over the New-York Central Railroad, were so much less than from New York that the New-York merchants less than from New-York that the New-York merchants could now well afford to ship their goods to the West by way of Boston. Mr. Lepew, he said, nad not attempted to show any reason why such rumons discrimination against New-York should be ablewed by the railroad comparies. In reply Mr. Depew stated that the presum advantage of Boston arose from the recent cutting of rates by the Grand Trunk Eadway. "It is to put a stop to this," said be, "that we are now having a conference of railroad drestors, We shall try to secure equal rates for New-York. If we can't do that, we shall cut, tee." [Applicate.] resolution effered by Mr. Smith was then passed by

THE COAL COMBINATION.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 30 .- The sentiments of the community with regard to the coal combination, are the sentiments of three separate classes; the members of ing reply:

Monteral, Jan. 30, 1878.

J. W. Gamper, Record House, N. F.

We accept the proposals, and sympathise with your desire that the result may be a permanent settlement of the questions in disjone.

At the evening session, the reply was real and applications and the evening session, the reply was real and applications and the evening session, the reply was real and applications. They said that the proposition had been made at last Friday's meeting that the various articles of agreement should have signatures affixed to them. proved, and it was agreed that we seemed rates from the state and New-York from and after to-morrow should be \$1 per 100 pounds on first-class freight to Chicagon other words, that the obssification and rates in force prior to January 12, when the cotting from Boston was officially announced, should be restored. It was stated, however, that these rates would probably be somewhat the state of the prior to January 12, when the cotting from Boston was officially announced, should be restored. It was stated, however, that these rates would probably be somewhat the prior to January 12, when the cotting from Boston was provided by the same with the country of the prior was a fixed to them, and that the various articles of arresonant should have signatures a fixed to them, and that the other party of the prior was not done was on account of the allegality of such an extinct on their party.

Moreover, the history of former combinations, had now that in very many instances a signature ment nothing at all, and offered no barrier whatsoever. Washington, Jan. 30.—On the 28th inst. William
E. Chandler telegraphed to Major E. A. Burke
at New-Orleans, for information about the alleged
bargain between Southern leaders and President
Hayes's friends. Mr. Chandler gives the following
correspondence to the press;

I.

New-Orleans, La. Jan. 29, 1878.

The Hon, WM. E. Chandler, Washington, D. C.

Betore considering the subject matter of a telegram

Commissioner McCormick, recognizing the importance that more than ordinary care should be
taken for the preservation of the American exhibits
to the secession advisable and
practicable. The present combination, though bound to
gether in no wise except by the was do flower that the Erritish
the section of an one of the parties whenever personal interests rendered such secession advisable and
practicable. The present combination, though bound to
the subject of the disposition, at the evening meeting, of
questions affecting West-bound traille, the presidents
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practicable. The present combination, though bound to
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practicable. The present combination, though bound to
the subject of the disposition, at the evening meeting, of
questions affecting West-bound traille, the president was
to the secession advisable and
practicable. The present combination, though bound to
the secretary Though
some trail very many meaners a signature
to the secession advisable and
practicable. The present combination, though be semicular, and comthe country of the subject of the disposition, as the evening meeting, of
the Central News states that Austria has declined
to the secession advisable and
practicable. The present combination, though be semicular, and comting

by be unable, he said, to hold their stock over unti-there was a brisker demand for oal, but this short standstill in business would probably only add strength to the wealther and more securely established houses. He did not think the compact could possibly be made more binding than it already was. The public demon-stration against the combination was a result of misap-prehension of its real objects.

The third class—the buying public—grumbles, and

BANK SUSPENSION.

THE DOORS OF THE PIRST NATIONAL BANK OF KAN-SAS CITY CLOSED.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 30 .- At a late hour last night, the following notice, signed by the officers of the bank, was left for publication at a newspaper

office:
At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of Kansas City, held this evening, it was voted that the bank discontinue business. This step is rendered necessary by a shrinkage in our deposits of over \$550,000 within the hast few days, added to the continuous very large reductions of the last few months, asgregating a much larger amount, and by the prospect of a continuance of the prevaient monetary distrust. The affairs of the bank will be rapidly liquidated, act the depositors may rest assured that in due time, they will be paid in full.

The clarity of the bank took the article of the continuous very large and the larger and the continuous con

The closing of the bank took the entire community by surprise, and there was great excitement this morning. There was a heavy run on other banks this morning, the principal run being on the Martin Bank, which paid every depositor in full, and announce that they are pre-pared for every emergency. Up to moon to-day they have received over fifty new accounts, one depositor paying in \$90,000. The exertment is now dying, and it is not ex-pected there will be any further trouble.

A YALE BANQUET.

SPEECHES BY EMINENT MEN. WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 .- The Yale Alumni Association, at their annual meeting this evening, at the Arlington Hotel, elected Associate-Justice Strong president, and Mr. Meloy secretary. The association then proceeded to the ban-The association their proceeded to the ban-quet, about fifty of the alumni being present, including Chief Justice-Waite, Secretary Evarts, Senator Dawes, Professor Marsh, and Dr. Peter Parker. Speeches were made by Messrs. Evarts, Marsh, Waite and others, and the festivities were prolonged to a late hour.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

MEMBEN, Conn., Jan. 30.—The Grand Army of he Republic, Department Encampment of Connecticut, sected as Commander, Frank G. Ous, of Meriden. PHILADELPHIA, Jgn. 30.—At the meeting of the State Central Committee of the United Greenback-Labor party, held in this city to-day, delegates were appointed to the Toledo Convention.

EVANSVILLE, ind., Jan. 30.—Minister Foster arrived here this norming from the City of Mexico, en route to Washington to confer with the Administration as to the recognition of Diaz by the United States.

There is great excitement in England on account of the debate on the vote of confidence and supplementary credit, which is to be resumed to-day. The Liberals being disunited, the Ministry expect to have a majority of 100. The Porte is still uninformed as to the formal conclusion of peace. No armistice had been signed up to yesterday. The Russians have blown up a Turkish steamer before the port of

THE EXCITEMENT IN ENGLAND THE LIBERALS DISUNITED-MONSTER MASS-MEET-

INGS-GLADSTONE EALLYING THE IRISH. LONDON, Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1878. In the House of Commons this afternoon, Mr. Bed-ford Clapperton Trevelyan Pim (Conservative), member for Gravesend, gave notice that he would move to-morrow that the House, while giving the Government due credit for maintaining the policy determined upon after the solemn assurances of the Czar that he desired only immunity for the Christian subjects of the Porte, and aimed at no aggrandizement whatever, is of the opinion that these assurances are being deliberately evaded by the proposed terms of peace and the advance of the Russian arms, and believes that the time has come when the immediate action of England is an absolute necessity, and requests, forthwith, estimates for placing the Army

and Navy on a war footing. Mr. Pim represents the strong Turcophile section of the House. The Conservatives in the House of Commons are expected to give solid support to the credit vote, One or two defections (not more) are probable. The Liberals, on the contrary, are divided. There will be numerous abstentions, and some of the Liberals will support the Government. The Home Rulers have not yet determined on their course, but they will probably mostly abstain from voting. Such of them as vote (mainly Ultramontaines) will support

the Government. The majority for the credit is already estimated

PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS. Meetings are being held throughout the country to influence Parliament against the credit, but mostly by Liberal, or Reform or peace organizations. No non-partisan meeting has yet been at-

tempted. An open air meeting at Sheffield, yesterday, for the purpose of opposing the Government, was turned into an anti-Russian demonstration. An amendment to an original resolution against the credit was carried by an immense majority, declaring that the cause of peace and the interests of the Empire will be best promoted by supporting the foreign policy of the Government. The meeting numbered over 20,000 persons. They same patriodic sours, cheered Lord Leaconstield's name, and greeted Lord Canarvon's with hisses and cries of traitor." amendment to an original resolution against the

traitor." Some of the leading Liberal provincial new spapers are taking an anti-Russian ton

GLADSTONE'S VOICE. Mr. Gladstone, in accepting an address from the Liberal Association at Oxford, to-day, said that he considered the sending of the fleet into the Dardanelles an act of war, a breach of neutrality. The vote of six millions would be taken by Turkey as encouragement to prolong the war. He feared that the vote would be carried by the failure of the Irish members to oppose it though he hoped, for Ireland's honor, those who had themselves been struggling for freedom would respect and sympathize with the freedom of others. He said the Liberals are in the minority in the House of Commons, but they have the country with them on this question. It rests with the country to say whether it will incur the burden of this vote, and encourage Turkey to persevere in prolonging the cruel and bloody struggle, which has already brought her well-nigh to destruction.

AUSTRIA TAKING A STAND WHICH MAY LEAD TO

which, to furnish the requisite guarance. If the Ministry obtains a large majority, a very important European combination will appear.

Excesses, Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1878.

A telegram from Vienna confirms the report that Austria has addressed a note to Russia, resolutely uppolding the interests of Austria and Europe. The note already forms the subject of general diplomatic compariety.

AN OTTOMAN STEAMER BLOWN UP. ST. PETERSBURG, Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1878.

The commander of the Russian steamer Constantine reports that he left Sebastopol for a cruiso on the 22d rust. He approached Batum on the 26th, where there were seven Turkish vessels. The Constantine sent a Watchead torpedo against a screw steamer which was on guard outside, and sank her immediately. The crew were all drowned. The Constantine has returned to Sebastopol.

MISERY AT CONSTANTINOPLE. THE REFUGEES 150,000 IN NUMBER-FOOD, SHEL-TER AND MEDICINE LACKING. LONDON, Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1878.

The central committee of the Red Crescent Society telegraphs from Constantinople an appeal to all kindred committees of the Red Cross, all benevolent instatutions, and all kind-hearled men of all countries. It says that a considerable number of wounded soldiers are flocking into Constantinople from all parts of the country. Nearly 150,000 refugees, victims of the war, flying from the scene of military operations, deprived of all means of existence, and almost naked, constitute a situation which, considering the limited resources of the Red Crescent Secrety, may end in disaster and a general

calamity. Special correspondents of the London newspapers also continue to give details of the immense distress prevailing. They state that smallpox and typhus have began ing. They state that smallpox and typins have began among the refugees, and efforts are making to send them to Asia. It is apprehended that the increased population of Constantinople will occasion a scarcity of provisions unless there is some special effort from without to repienless the stores. Eight thousand refugees arrived in the Capital on Monday. It is impossible for all to find shelte. Many are huddled in open sheds, kneedeep in mud and water. The wholesale exodus from Roumeha is abated.

THE FREE PIPE LINE BILL DEFEATED. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

HARRISBURG, Jan. 30 .- The bill permitting the construction of a free oil pipe line from the oil regious to the scaboard was up for consideration in the Senate this evening. After arguments in favor of and against the measure, a motion to indefinitely postpone its consideration was carried by a vote of 27 to 19. A motion to reconsider this vote was lost, and the bill can motion to reconsider this vote was lost, and the bill can not again be brought before the Senate the present ses-sion. The debate occupied four hours, the Senate being crowded with speciators during its procress. A large delegation of prominent citizons of Phinadelphia, repre-senting various business interests, was here in opposi-tion to the bill, and representatives from the different oil fields of Pennsylvania were on the floor, organg its passage.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES-BY TELEGRAPH. DEADWOOD, Jan. 30.—Otta A. Tierback com-

CINCINNATI, Jan. 30.—The Wholesale Grocers' association to-day adopted a resolution favoring the repeal of the Bankrupt Law.

Spaintfull Law.

Spaintfull, Mass., Jan. 30.—Johanna Flaherty, a widow seventy years of ago, committed suicide to day by drowing at Falmer, Mass.

Augusta, Me., Jan. 30.—Mr. Brown, treasurer of the town of Monmouth, Me., disappeared a week ago; and is is believed be is a defaulter for \$10,000 of the town a funds.

Philladelphila, Penn., Jan. 30, Two Italians, B'asica Chrishuntz and Davidy Faroli, engaged in a fight in the street to day, and Faroli stabbed his adversary nine times with a stiletto. PHHADELPHIA, Penn., Jan. 30.—Frank Leglio was given a hearing before a magistrate this afternoon upon the charge of libel preferred by Lawyer Weigley and was held in \$2.0.0 ball.

PORTSMOUTH, Ohio, Jan. 30.—Harry Kinney, while returning home at a late hour has night, was shot in the abdemen by footpads, who, after robbing him of his watch and money, escaped.